

ORIGIN/ACTION

Approved For Release 2001/08/30 : CIA-RDP75-00149R000300430018-6

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ISRAEL
POL 15-1 ISR

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HANDLING INDICATOR

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AIRGRAM

A-317
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TO : Department of State

INFO Jerusalem, London

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FROM : Amembassy TEL AVIV

DATE: December 6, 1966

SUBJECT: Harel Conducting Anti-Eshkol Campaign

REF : Our A-17, July 7, 1966

Following upon his June 30, 1966 resignation as General Adviser to Prime Minister Levi Eshkol there have been sporadic newspaper accounts reporting the resentment felt by (Isser HAREL) one-time Chief of the Israel Security Services, over the "social implications" of his departure from Government service. In the most recent spate of such reports it appears that the aggrieved Mr. Harel has changed his tactics from newspaper publicity to attempting to enlist support against the Prime Minister from within Mapai itself. The most welcome listeners to his complaints apparently are members of the Mapai Kibbutz movement ("Ihud Hakibbutzim"), particularly Mrs. (Senta JOSEPHITHAL).

Harel's anti-Eshkol campaign has been answered by the decision of the various Mapai hierarchial bodies, including the Leadership Bureau, to reject Harel's request for a Party investigation of the reasons behind his resignation and by so doing to voice their full support of Mr. Eshkol. Given Harel's tenacity, however, he may be expected to pursue his bid to "right the wrong" done him. Another "affair" may be brewing.

BARBOUR

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[initials]

Drafted by:

* Isser Harel, onetime Chief of Security and lately Security Adviser to the Prime Minister, intends to start a "second round" of his campaign against Mr. Eshkol "and his methods" - which, he believes, endanger the very existence of the State, - as soon as he recovers from a bout of ill-health which is confining him to his home. He has not yet decided what form this second round will take, but resists all representations of his friends who ask him to leave well alone. (YEDIOT)

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Hebrew Daily Press Review 9-14-66

State Dept. declassification & release instructions on file